

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 127618

17

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-04 INR-07 MC-02 /039 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:RAPECK/NH

APPROVED BY P:JJSISCO

NEA:SSOBER

PM:TSTERN (DRAFT)

DOD/OSD/ISA:RKUBAL (SUBS)

S/S:MR. BORG

----- 060803

R 242021Z MAY 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

SECDEF

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 127618

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PK, IR

SUBJECT: PAKISTANI PILOT TRAINING ON F-5E

REF: TEHRAN 4542, ISLAMABAD 4605

1. WE HAVE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED THE IRANIAN PROPOSAL TO TRAIN PAKISTANI PILOTS ON THE F-5E AND MUST RELUCTANTLY REQUEST THAT IRAN NOT PROCEED WITH THIS PROJECT AT THE PRESENT TIME. WE AGREE WITH ISLAMABAD THAT IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO ENCOURAGE GREATER COOPERATION BETWEEN IRANIAN AND PAKISTANI ARMED FORCES AND ACCORDINGLY WOULD LIKE TO LEAVE THE DOOR OPEN TO USG RECONSIDERATION OF THIS PROJECT AT SOME LATER DATE.

2. IN CONVEYING OUR POSITION TO THE GOI, YOU SHOULD DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS:

-- THE USG WELCOMES THE GROWING COOPERATION BETWEEN THE  
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PAGE 02 STATE 127618

ARMED FORCES OF IRAN AND PAKISTAN. WE ARE THEREFORE

RELUCTANT TO INTERPOSE ANY OBJECTION TO THE TRAINING OF  
PAKISTANI PILOTS ON IRANIAN F-5E AIRCRAFT.

-- WE MUST REQUEST, HOWEVER, THAT THE GOI NOT PROCEED WITH  
PLANS TO TRAIN PAKISTANI PILOTS AT THE PRESENT TIME.

-- THE ISSUE OF IRANIAN TRAINING OF EGYPTIAN PILOTS HAS  
ALREADY GENERATED QUESTIONS IN THIS COUNTRY AND, WHILE  
WE ARE DEVELOPING SUPPORT FOR A MODEST PROGRAM IN THIS  
REGARD FOR C-130 AIRCRAFT, WE WOULD LIKE TO AVOID STIMU-  
LATING ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS IN CONGRESS OR THE PRESS.

-- THE USG PRESENTLY HAS UNDER CONSIDERATION A REQUEST  
FROM PAKISTAN FOR COMBAT AIRCRAFT. WE WOULD NOT WANT TO  
TAKE ANY ACTION AT THIS TIME WHICH WOULD APPEAR TO OUT-  
SIDE OBSERVERS THAT WE HAD PREJUDGED THIS ISSUE. FURTHER-  
MORE, WE ANTICIPATE THAT THE PROPOSED IRANIAN TRAINING OF  
PAK PILOTS WOULD BECOME KNOWN AND THUS COULD RESULT IN  
CONTROVERSY THAT MIGHT LIMIT USG FLEXIBILITY IN CONSIDER-  
ING PAKISTAN'S REQUEST TO PURCHASE COMBAT AIRCRAFT FROM  
THE U.S.

-- WE WILL KEEP THIS MATTER UNDER REVIEW AND BE PREPARED  
TO CONSIDER IT AGAIN AT A LATER DATE.

3. EMBASSY ISLAMABAD MAY DRAW ON THE POINTS IN PARA 2 AS  
APPROPRIATE IN RESPONDING TO INQUIRIES OR IN BRIEFING THE  
GOP. SISCO

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TOSEC, POLICIES, PILOT TRAINING, MILITARY PERSONNEL, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT  
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